

WINTER  
2002

SAN FRANCISCO  
CINEMATHEQUE

# Welcome

to our densely packed Winter 2002 calendar of events. Highlights of this new season include personal appearances by many filmmakers and curators, young and old, from near and far, including Stom Sogo, Lee Krist, Jay Rosenblatt, Caveh Zahedi, Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi, Barbara Meter, Chip Lord, Gustavo Vasquez, Vincent Grenier, Fred Worden, Carmen Vigil and Charles Wright. There will also be a special series commemorating Cinematheque's 40th Anniversary at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and a rare presentation of Andy Warhol's *The Chelsea Girls* at the Castro Theater. The Warhol film is part of the ongoing retrospective 40 Years In Focus, a decade by decade look-back and re-visiting of some of the many highlights from the thousands of programs which Cinematheque presented over the years. As you can see, I felt compelled to increase the total number of programs to three a week (harking back to our calendars of 1983-1992) to better convey the range of programming which was produced from 1971-1981, but many significant works, especially feature films, still had to be left out. I know that Steve Polta, our trusted interns and I will make sure that this increased flurry of activity will be well handled, and we hope that you will come to many of the shows and share in the history of the art form as well as our organization.

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If you want to see your name in these lights, hang out in our office, go to shows for free and help help help Cinematheque, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Course credit is available and parking tickets can be worked off as well. Work can be regularly scheduled, occasional and favor-related or can even be specialized if you have a particular interest, skill, novelty act or other "hang" you think would benefit Cinematheque. Please call soon.

Steve Polta, Office Manager



### address & telephone

San Francisco Cinematheque  
PO Box 880338  
San Francisco, CA 94188-0338  
415/822.2885

### website & e.mail

[www.sfcinematheque.org](http://www.sfcinematheque.org)  
e.mail [sfc@sfcinematheque.org](mailto:sfc@sfcinematheque.org)

### venues

Castro Theatre  
429 Castro Street (at Market Street)

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
151 Third Street (at Mission Street)

San Francisco Art Institute  
800 Chestnut Street (at Jones Street)

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts  
701 Mission Street (at Third Street)

### TO JOIN OUR SNAIL-MAILING LIST

You can send us your name and address, you can call (415.822.2885) or you can email ([mailinglist@sfcinematheque.org](mailto:mailinglist@sfcinematheque.org)). We'll be happy to send you future calendars.

### CINEMATHEQUE ON-LINE AND ON E-MAIL

We now have our very own website! Point your browser to [www.sfcinematheque.org](http://www.sfcinematheque.org) to get further information and updates on all of our activities. For news and program updates right to your inbox, send an email to [sf\\_cinematheque-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sf_cinematheque-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

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## won't you join us...

for membership information, call our office

We need YOU to become a part of US. San Francisco Cinematheque members receive discount or free admissions to all programs, invitations to special members-only events and screenings, reservation privileges, and first class delivery of seasonal calendars, which guarantees that you'll get the scoop on the season before it has begun! Note: If you come to only 8 shows a year, you actually save on admissions as a member at the Individual, Family or Contributor level.

### Membership Categories and Benefits:

#### \$25 Individual

Discount admission to all shows for one year

#### \$50 Family

Two discount admissions to all shows for one year

#### \$100 Contributor

Two free admissions to all shows for one year

#### \$150-\$250 Sponsor

Two free admissions to all shows + special gifts!



### San Francisco Cinematheque

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STEVE POLTA

#### OFFICE MANAGER

STEVE POLTA

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CATHY PHOENIX

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#### DESIGN

OONA NELSON

SAN FRANCISCO  
**CINEMATHEQUE**

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**WINTER 2002** **AT A GLANCE**  
*See reverse side for details*

**FEBRUARY**

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7:30 pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts  
Filmmakers In Person

**16**

The Queer Avant-Garde  
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The Magic of Chemicals: Roger Jacoby/Lee Krist  
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Lee Krist In Person

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7:30 pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

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Buster Keaton and Jacques Tati  
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Gianikian and Ricci Lucchi:  
Cinematic Explorers— Program 4  
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Hollis Frampton's *Hapax Legomena*  
7:30 pm San Francisco Art Institute

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*El Zócalo* by Chip Lord and Gustavo Vasquez  
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Chip Lord In Person

**22**

Stan Brakhage's *The Text of Light*  
7:30 pm San Francisco Art Institute

**23**

Stan Brakhage: Short Films: 1971-1981  
7:30 pm San Francisco Art Institute

**24**

Stan Brakhage: The Complete Arabic Numerals Series  
7:00 pm San Francisco Art Institute

**28**

Vincent Grenier: New Film and Video  
7:30 pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts  
Vincent Grenier In Person

**30**

Panel: Cinematheque in the '70s  
5:00 pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

**31**

Personal Selections by Carmen Vigil  
7:30 pm San Francisco Art Institute

**APRIL**

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The Graphic Cinema of Fred Warden  
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Fred Warden In Person

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\$150-\$250	Sponsor
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Automatic Writing 2 by Fred Worden

<b>San Francisco Cinematheque</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR</b> CATHY PHOENIX	<b>TECHNICIANS</b> KARA HEROLD STEVE POLTA STOM SOGO	<b>INTERNS/VOLUNTEERS</b> DENNIS HANLON ERIC JENSEN MARIJKE JORRITSMA MATT MENDES CHRISTINE METROPOULOS KRISTIN MURTAUGH SOO-JI PAK PAMELA J. SMITH LAUREN SORENSEN	<b>WEBMASTERS</b> GILBERT GUERRERO RENA TOM
<b>DIRECTOR</b> STEVE ANKER	<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b> NIKI BOROFSKY SEAN FLETCHER JEANNE C. FINLEY GLEN SPRINGER RENA TOM KATHLEEN TYNER		<b>DESIGN</b> OONA NELSON	

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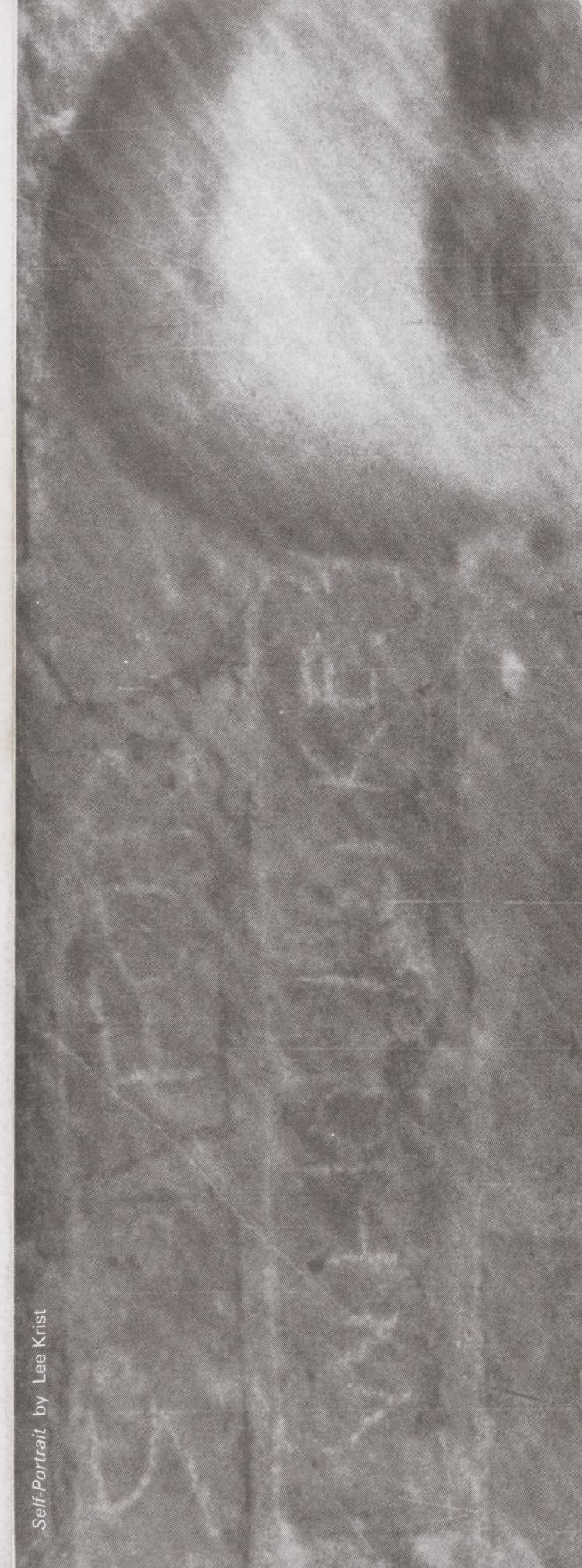
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Self-Portrait by Lee Krist

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### SAN FRANCISCO CINEMATHEQUE



## NEW WORK

Thursday, February 14 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Obscure Love and Death

Curated and Presented by Stom Sogo

Yoriko Washiyama, Jose Luis Duarte, Brian Traylor, Angelina Krahn, Albert Reyes, Karen Johannessen and Stom Sogo In Person

Obscure Love and Death is a collection of Super-8mm films (most from SF and/or NYC) that are specially made and selected for its subconscious theme.

Variations here are the individual takes; read however you like, for the night of dead-lovely chill, I guess. For the Valentine's Day special, we are adding the thicker flavor to the bloody chocolate which will help you drive through your own nightmare! Filmmakers include: Jose Luis Duarte, Yoriko Washiyama, Karen Johannessen, Angelina Krahn, Brian Traylor, Albert Reyes, Martha Colburn, Glen Fogel, Andy Lampert, Stom Sogo, Lee Ellicks, Moira Tierney, Francois Boué, Joshua Cicerone, Natalie To and much more mads. (Stom Sogo)

Thursday, February 21 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Underground Zero:

Independent Filmmakers Respond to 9/11

Curated and Presented by

Caveh Zahedi and Jay Rosenblatt

One week after the events of September 11th, independent filmmakers Caveh Zahedi and Jay Rosenblatt put out a call to over 100 experimental and documentary filmmakers asking for contributions to a collective film project addressing the recent events and their aftermath. The response was overwhelming, and tonight's program is a sampling of those responses. Among the filmmakers who contributed works are Frazer Bradshaw, Eva Breski, Paul Harrill, Cathy Cook, Rock Ross, Barbara Klutin, Anne Robertson, Jay Rosenblatt, Lucas Sabean, Caveh Zahedi, Phil Solomon and Ira Sachs. (Caveh Zahedi)

February 24 &amp; 28

Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi: Cinematic Explorers

Co-organized by Kathy Geritz, Pacific Film Archive. Thanks to our co-sponsors: Istituto Italiano di Cultura (San Francisco), Armenian General Benevolent Union, Hamazkayn Cultural Association, Knights of Vartan, La Méditerranée and University of California Berkeley Armenian Alumni.

Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi return to the Bay Area for the first time since the 1980s, when they screened their scented films at Cinematheque and the Pacific Film Archive. Based in Milan, Gianikian and Ricci Lucchi are known for their excavations of rare archival footage which they find, rephotograph, and mold into mesmerizing meditations on war, imperialism, and image-making in the early 20th century. Lyrical yet austere, their films expose the misplaced hubris and catastrophic folly of human endeavor. Cinematheque and the PFA present a six-program retrospective of their work, with the makers in person at the last three screenings. The additional programs in this series take place at the PFA on February 5, 12, 19 and 26. Call 510-642-1412 for details. (Irina Leimbacher)

Sunday, February 24 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi: Cinematic Explorers, program 4:

On The Heights All Is Peace and Transparencies

Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi In Person

Using footage shot in the Alps between enemy

countries Italy and Austria-Hungary during World War I,

On The Heights All Is Peace hauntingly conveys the slow waiting, work and despair of war. Through the "wounded body of the nitrate material," the filmmakers

give life to the "soldier-man" on both sides of the

invisible front. The Italian images were shot by Luca Comerio (From the Pole to the Equator) and the film

is accompanied by a hypnotic original score, with

lyrics based on soldiers' diaries. Preceded by

Transparencies, about the state of some found

footage material. (Irina Leimbacher)

Thursday, February 28 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi: Cinematic Explorers, program 6:

Images Of The Orient (Tourisme Vandale) and African Diary

Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi In Person

Tonight marks the culmination of the retrospective and

the Bay Area premiere of their newest opus, Images of the Orient (Tourisme Vandale). Using archival footage

shot by wealthy Europeans on a trip to India at the

end of the 1920s, the film analyzes the behavior and

orientalizing attitudes of Westerners in the East as "the new 'travelers' move in compact groups towards the

exotic, towards its ruin." Preceded by African Diary,

using footage from a personal diary film shot in

Algeria by an anonymous Frenchman between 1927 and 1936. (Irina Leimbacher)

Thursday, March 7 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Disquieting Appearances: Films of Barbara Meter

Barbara Meter In Person

Dutch filmmaker Barbara Meter returns to the Bay Area with recent films that use different European settings and past cultures to explore universal themes such as war, memory, and dislocation. Even though Meter has been making films since the 1970s, her most recent films achieve a new level of poetic expression. Films will include *Appearances*, which moves from the uncanny to the warmth of the familial in evoking German life during the first half of the twentieth century; *Departure on Arrival*, a tensely impressionistic evocation of the passage of time as referenced by Eastern European Jewish life in the middle of the last century; *From The Exterior; Greece, To Me; Convalescing* and others. (Steve Anker)

Thursday, March 21 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

El Zócalo by Chip Lord and Gustavo Vasquez

Chip Lord In Person

Since the 1970s, when he helped create the artist collective Ant Farm and other groups exploring experimental approaches to video and television, Chip Lord has produced a large body of videotapes that explore social customs in different societies and their relationships to technology. *El Zócalo*, premiering tonight, is an observational portrait of Mexico City's central Plaza de la Constitución across one day in August. Soldiers, Aztec dancers, clowns, food vendors, protesters, rain, dogs, tourists, kites, balloons and dignitaries all meet in the public space of the Zócalo. Shown with *The Aroma of Enchantment* by Chip Lord, shot in Tokyo, where a strangely mutated idea of America takes many forms. (Steve Anker)

Thursday, March 28 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Vincent Grenier: New Film and Video

Vincent Grenier In Person

French-Canadian Filmmaker (and early Cinematheque programmer) Vincent Grenier has, since the 1970s, produced a body of films that explore subtle relationships between light and color, combining unique approaches to portraiture and landscape with formal cinematic concerns of dimensionality and abstraction. Grenier has recently begun concentrating on digital video, producing an array of works which explore this new medium with equal enthusiasm, concentrating especially on the creative possibilities achieved from a fusion of film and video. This program highlights Vincent's recent digital work (*Miracle Grow, Brendan's Cracker, Capturé, Color Study, Material Incidents* and *Winter Collection*) and a selection of earlier films. (Steve Polta)

Thursday, April 4 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Energy and Deep Abstraction:

The Graphic Cinema of Fred Worden

Fred Worden In Person

The films of Fred Worden are inspired by and continue a lineage of filmmaking activity suggested by the work of Len Lye and Hans Richter, a tradition of graphic filmmaking "where not just representation but naturalism itself has been happily jettisoned. Energy and deep abstraction are the primordial elements of this stripped-bare world." The five films on this program, each a minimal composition of light and dark modulated through the rhythms of projection — Worden's *One* being an extended exploration of a single abstract film frame — provide invigorating and intense visual interactions between screen and viewer while hinting at the infinite experiences potentially gleaned from the most modest of materials. Lye's *Free Radicals* and Richter's *Rhythmus 21* will be presented by Worden in the context of his own recent work: *One, Automatic Writing 2* and *The Or Cloud*. (Steve Polta)

Thursday, April 11 at 7:30 pm

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

Figures and Grounds: New Work from Canyon Cinema

Cinematheque's seasonal program showcasing work recently received by Canyon Cinema, local distributor of alternative and experimental cinema, kicks off this Winter season. Saul Levine's *Light Licks (Az Sent): Only Sunshine* consists of rhythmically pulsing abstract frames. Michael Rosas-Walsh's *Lake Orion* builds glistening black and white dreams from multiple exposed vacation footage. Shiro Kano's *Rocking Chair* ominously describes the loneliness of an empty room. Mary Beth Reed's multi-layered *Moon Streams* ventures deep into peeling layers of paint, emulsion, and fragmented imagery. The program is rounded out by the new-to-Canyon "re-release" of Michael Snow's 1964 *New York Eye and Ear Control*, "starring" The Walking Woman and featuring a soundtrack by Albert Ayler. (Steve Polta)Images of the Orient (Tourisme Vandale)  
Yervant Gianikian and Angela Ricci Lucchi

## 40 YEARS IN FOCUS

San Francisco Cinematheque: 40 Years In Focus, Part Two, 1971-1981

Taking advantage of our recent 40th Anniversary as an opportunity to re-visit high points of Cinematheque's exhibition history, 40 Years In Focus will present highlights of the scores of films and filmmakers we were privileged to present over the years. Part Two: 1971-1981 covers a period of sustained financial and institutional stability and includes the Program Directorships of Vincent Grenier (1974-75), Carmen Vigil (1975-82) and Charles Wright (1975-77). Grenier produced 6 calendars of events in his one year of activity, Wright and Vigil produced eighteen together over two years together, and Vigil was produced twenty-eight calendars alone over the next four years. A precursor to the History of Bay Area Experimental Film and Video series planned for 2003 by Pacific Film Archive and Cinematheque, 40 Years In Focus is presented in four sections seasonally spanning each decade. The series is curated by Steve Anker unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, February 16 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

The Queer Avant-Garde

This decade saw the full maturation of a parallel avant-garde to the avant-garde, an out-of-the-closet queer cinema that celebrated sexual difference and unconventional film form. Su Friedrich's *Gently Down The Stream*, Michael Wallin's *The Place Between Our Bodies*, Tom Chomont's *Oblivion*, James Broughton's *Hermetes Bird*, Barbara Hammer's *Multiple Orgasm* and Curt McDowell's *Confessions*.

Sunday, February 17 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

The Magic of Chemicals: Roger Jacoby/Lee Krist

Lee Krist In Person

Roger Jacoby appeared several times at Cinematheque before his life was abruptly ended from AIDS complications, but his fervent passion for hand-processing and expressive camera work still reverberate and influence young filmmakers today. New York-based Lee Krist will show a selection of his own Jacoby-inspired films, made from his own emulsion and processing fluids and then projected with a hand-cranked 35mm projector. Krist will show Jacoby's *Kunst Life I-III* and *How To Be A Homosexual, Part II*.

Saturday, February 23 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

Maverick Feature Filmmakers, program 1

Buster Keaton and Jacques Tati

Keaton's *Sherlock, Jr.* Tati's *Mr. Hulot's Holiday* Buster Keaton and Jacques Tati, two masters of visual comedy, were among the many feature-length narrative filmmakers Cinematheque presented during the decade. *Sherlock, Jr.* is a wonderful fantasy with Keaton as a projectionist who enters the film he is showing, and *Mr. Hulot's Holiday* is a tour-de-force burlesque of a modern-day vacation.

Saturday, March 2 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

Hollis Frampton's *Hapax Legomena*From 1976 through 1980 Hollis Frampton visited Cinematheque on five occasions, each time screening entire programs of new films from his highly productive career. Not screened at Cinematheque in its entirety since his very first visit in April 1976, *Hapax Legomena* is a seven-part investigation of the specific conditions of cinematic representation and the limitations and paradoxes of visual description and narrative. *Hapax Legomena* includes *Nostalgia, Travelling Matte, Critical Mass, Special Effects, Poetic Justice, Ordinary Matter and Remote Control*. (Steve Polta)

Sunday, March 3 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

Women Filmmakers of the '70s

Tonight's program offers an overview of the fertile contribution women artists were making to independent, avant-garde filmmaking by the Seventies, ranging from wickedly funny psychodramas to thoughtful explorations of cinematic form. Films: Barbara Linkovitch's *Chinamoon*, Gunvor Nelson's *Take Off*, Anne Severson's *Near The Big Chakra*, Dore O's *Kaskara*, Sandra Davis' *Maternal Filigree* and *Pools* by Barbara Hammer and Barbara Klutin.

Saturday, March 9 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

Maverick Feature Filmmakers, program 2

Jon Jost's *Speaking Directly: Some American Notes*Jon Jost made five appearances at Cinematheque between 1971-81. Jost's first feature-length film, *Speaking Directly: Some American Notes*, is a wry personal essay made a few years after his 27-month stint in prison for draft dodging. Made in Montana on a minuscule budget, this critique of America in the early '70s is brilliantly idiosyncratic reflection on society, filmmaking and how one chooses to live one's life. (Irina Leimbacher)

Sunday, March 10 at 7:30 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

Chick Strand in the '70s

Curated by Carmen Vigil

The seventies was Chick Strand's most prolific period, featuring some of her most accomplished and endearing work. Tonight's selection exhibits a wide variety of cinematic concerns: *Cosas de Mi Vida, Elasticity, Cartoon le Mousse and Guacamole*. (Carmen Vigil)

## SAN FRANCISCO

## CINEMATHEQUE

Thursday, Saturday, Sunday

March 14, 16, 17

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

San Francisco Cinematheque:

Four Decades of Film &amp; Video

Sponsored and presented by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

SFMoMA Admission Rates Apply

The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art will salute the Cinematheque with a historical overview of five programs highlighting some of the notable films and videos Cinematheque premiered or championed throughout four decades of activity.

Thursday, March 14

Installations on view at 6:30 pm, screening at 7:00 pm

Four Decades of Film and Video, program 1

The New Generation:

A Celebration of Recent Bay Area Films &amp; Videos

The series begins with a program of films and videos highlighting some of the younger Bay Area experimental moving-image artists frequently represented at the Cinematheque. Installations: Michael Rudnick's *Animated Glasses*, Lynn Marie Kirby's *Photons in Paris: Image Encoding*, Film and video screening: Steve Polta's *Estuary #1 (Constant Passage)*, silt's *Pieces of a River Shore*, Greta Snider's *Flight*, Kerry Laitala's *Hallowed*, Thad Povey's *Thine Inward-Looking Eyes*, Rodney Ascher and SydGarron's *Somebody Goofed*, John Muse and Jeanne C. Finley's *Language Lessons*, Konrad Steiner's *Bum Series* and *Lake Orion* by Michael Rosas-Walsh. A reception will follow the screening.

Saturday, March 24 at 7:00 pm

San Francisco Art Institute

A Brakhage Weekend II, program 3

The Complete Arabic Numerical Series

The Arabic Numerical Series, a series of twenty films ranging from five to thirty-two minutes in length, "inspired and governed